

PATENT SPECIFICATION

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DRAWINGS ATTACHED



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(54) IMPROVEMENTS IN AND RELATING TO CHAIRS OR LIKE FURNITURE

(71) I, ARNOLDUS JOSEPH JANSSEN, of Dutch Nationality, of Sittarderweg 58a, Heerlen, The Netherlands, do hereby declare the invention, for which I pray that a patent may be granted to me, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

This invention relates to a chair having a chair frame, a seat member, and a back rest member separate from the chair frame, said back rest member being reversible.

It is an object of the invention to provide such a chair wherein the back rest member can be reversed quickly and easily without disturbing the chair frame.

According to the invention there is provided a chair comprising a chair frame having interconnected side frames spaced apart along a transverse axis and further comprising at least one reversible member comprising an upholstered frame separate from the chair frame and having oppositely directed first and second major surfaces, co-operating means on the or each reversible member and associated opposed spaced apart members of the chair frame whereby the reversible member may be retained at will in either of two positions in each of which the reversible member is located between the associated opposed members of the chair frame and opposite sides of the reversible member adjoin adjacent sides of the respective associated members of the chair frame, and in one of which positions said first major surface is directed towards the seating space of the chair while said second major surface is directed away from the seating space of the chair and in the other of which positions said second major surface is directed towards the seating space of the chair while the first major surface is directed away from the seating space of the chair, said co-operating means comprising a retaining formation on each said side of the reversible member and a complementary retaining formation on the adjacent side of the respective one of said associated frame members, one of said formations comprising

at least one pin or rod portion which, at least in either of said positions of the reversible member extends from the respective one of said adjacent sides towards the other of said adjacent sides, and the other of said formations providing a slot the edges of which engage part of the circumference of said pin or rod portion when the back rest member is in either of said positions, the arrangement being such that the reversible member can be moved from each said reversible position to the other of said positions without disturbing the chair frame, simply by manipulating the reversible member, the chair comprising a back rest member and a seat member, at least the back rest member being formed by the or a said reversible member and the opposed spaced apart members associated with the back rest member being the side frames of the chair frame.

Other objects of the invention and the manner in which they are realised, will appear from the following detailed description of several embodiments, which is to be read in connection with the accompanying drawings. In the drawings:

Figure 1 shows partially in front view and partially in section a first embodiment of a chair according to the invention;

Figure 2 is a perspective view of Figure 1 in which the various parts are in a phase during their change of position;

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the chair in a second embodiment;

Figure 4 is a vertical section through the chair shown in Figure 3, with the various reversible panels in the position ready for use of the chair;

Figure 5 is a vertical section through a chair in a third embodiment; and

Figure 6 is a detail marked VI in Figure 5 on enlarged scale in elevation.

Referring to Figures 1 and 2 a chair has a chair frame comprising two side frames spaced apart by transverse connecting members, each side frame including a rear vertical post 3 or 4 and a front vertical post 1 or 2 respectively. A seat frame 5, on which

slot portion 42, which extends obliquely with respect to the slot 41, and which has an open end.

From Figure 4 it is seen that the distance of the pair of pins 36 and 37, is less than the length of the corresponding slot 41. Figure 4 shows the normal position of the seat when the chair is used. The seat 31 can be displaced forwardly with the pins on either side being guided by the corresponding slots, the first pin 37 will follow the oblique slot portion 42, so that the front edge of the seat is soon free. Thereupon the rearward pin 36, will when the seat is drawn out further, also leave the slot. The seat 31 can then be swung through 180° and placed in the chair frame again in upside down position.

Figure 4 further shows that the rearward end of the slot is provided with an enlarged portion 43, in which the rearward pin 36 (or the pin 37 when the seat has been reversed) rests. Thus the seat can be removed only after lifting the rearward edge of the seat and freeing the pin from the enlarged portion 43 of the slot.

After this the similar construction of the reversible back rest 30 will be clear. The pins such as 34, 35 on either side of the back rest are spaced by a distance which is somewhat less than the length of the slot 39 which has a lateral open ended portion 44 near its upper end. After slightly lifting the back rest. The upper pin 34 leaves the open ended slot portion 44 followed by the second pin 35. After swinging the back rest through 180°, it can be positioned again by having the pin 34 firstly entering the slot.

It will be clear that the precise angle between the slot end portions 42 and 44 with respect to the slots 41 and 39 respectively is of no importance, provided that there is an oblique portion with a free end, which prevents the upholstered members from being pushed or drawn out accidentally and which enables inversion by manipulating the panels when desired.

In the third embodiment which is shown in Figures 5 and 6, the frame 45 comprises transversely spaced side frames each including a front and a rear strut connected at their upper ends by a generally horizontal beam providing an arm rest. The side frames are interconnected by transverse struts shown in section in Figure 1. A back rest 47 and a seat member 48 are provided as upholstered frames; at their adjacent edges the back rest 47 and the seat member 48 are interconnected by means of a pivot 49 (or for example two pivots one at the left and the other at the right side). Laterally extending on either side from the back rest 47 and from the seat 48 are pairs of aligned pins, such as 50 and 51 respectively; a third pair of laterally extending aligned pins may

coincide with the axis of the pivots 49. Each of the pins 49, 50, 51 are supported by a guide member, which is shaped to provide a slot, which may have a relatively short length. Each guide member is preferably a resilient metal strip, such as shown at 52 in Figure 6, which acts as snap engagement means for the pin which is to be supported. Each of the supports, such as 52, is open at the top, and thus enables the pivotally connected seat and back rest to be lifted, reversed and replaced.

WHAT I CLAIM IS:—

1. A chair comprising a chair frame having interconnected side frames spaced apart along a transverse axis and further comprising at least one reversible member comprising an upholstered frame separate from the chair frame and having oppositely directed first and second major surfaces, co-operating means on the or each reversible member and associated opposed spaced apart members of the chair frame whereby the reversible member may be retained at will in either of two positions in each of which the reversible member is located between the associated opposed members of the chair frame and opposite sides of the reversible member adjoin adjacent sides of the respective associated members of the chair frame, and in one of which positions said first major surface is directed towards the seating space of the chair while said second major surface is directed away from the seating space of the chair and in the other of which positions said second major surface is directed towards the seating space of the chair while the first major surface is directed away from the seating space of the chair, said co-operating means comprising a retaining formation on each said side of the reversible member and a complementary retaining formation on the adjacent side of the respective one of said associated frame members, one of said formations comprising at least one pin or rod portion which, at least in either of said positions of the reversible member extends from the respective one of said adjacent sides towards the other of said adjacent sides, and the other of said formations providing a slot the edges of which engage part of the circumference of said pin or rod portion when the back rest member is in either of said positions, the arrangement being such that the reversible member can be moved from each said reversible position to the other of said positions without disturbing the chair frame, simply by manipulating the reversible member, the chair comprising a back rest member and a seat member, at least the back rest member being formed by the or a said reversible member and the opposed spaced apart members associated with the back rest

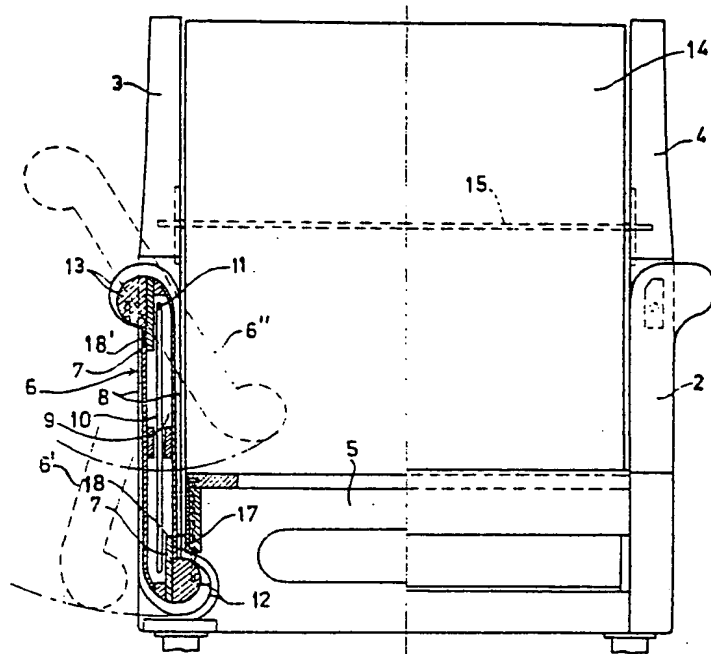


FIG. 1.

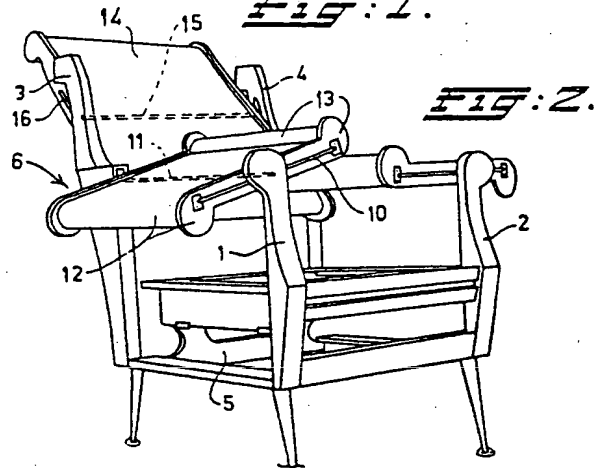


FIG. 2.

